MORDEN COLLIERY HISTORIC PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:

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Date: March 25/03

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Date: Mar 31/03

MORDEN COLLIERY HISTORIC PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Morden Colliery Historic Provincial Park is to protect and preserve remnants (coal tipple and other mining artifacts) of the Nanaimo Region's coal mining history. Most of the park's natural vegetation is second growth and the open areas are disturbed from previous mining activities. An open dirt parking area allows visitors access to view the old concrete coal tipple, the only remaining coal tipple found on Vancouver Island.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of Morden Colliery Historic Provincial Park is to offer opportunities for trail users, including hikers and cyclists, as a regional trail passes through the park along a historic railway right-of-way.

Known Management Issues	Response
The coal tipple and other mining artifacts are deteriorating through natural processes and vandalism. No funding for interpretation and maintenance of the park.	Other mining industry organizations will be approached to determine interest in site restoration and interpretation.
Growing recreation use along the historic railway right-of-way and increased visitation to this historic site by hikers and cyclists.	Discuss future of park as part of special feature along the historic regional trail system.
Concerns for public safety due to deterioration of coal tipple and other mining remnants. Although fenced, youths like to climb on the coal tipple resulting in the potential for injuries. Site is subject to vandalism (i.e. grafitti and frequent removal of portions of fence barricade around coal tipple).	Implement Park Watch program, maintain fencing and implement regular monitoring of park to reduce vandalism.
Potential transfer of park to Nanaimo Regional District.	Continued liaise with Nanaimo Regional District, Snuneymuxw (Nanaimo) First Nations and stakeholders.

Zoning

The entire park (4 hectares) is zoned Special Feature.

Conservation

Representation - ecosection	☐	Nanaimo Lowland Ecosection of which only 1.4% is represented in the protected area system. Morden Colliery's contribution is minimal sue to its small size.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	☐	CDFmm variant in Nanaimo Lowland ecosection (due to its small size and land use history, only 0.07% of CDFmm variant is found in Morden Colliery (compared to 14% in Gowlland Tod Park).
Special Feature	☒	Only remaining coal tipple found on Vancouver Island; this concrete structure is unique to this era of coal mining.
Rare/Endangered Values	☐	None identified
Scientific/Research Opportunities	☒	Heritage artifacts and representative of historic Nanaimo area coal mining industry.

Recreation

Representation backcountry	☐	
destination	☐	
travel corridor	☒	Heritage feature along Nanaimo regional trail system.
local recreation	☒	Day use to view heritage point of interest.
Special Opportunities	☐	
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	☒	Potential interpretation site of coal tipple and historic coal mining industry on Vancouver Island; opportunity for mining industry to be involved in their history.

Cultural Heritage

Representation	☒	Symbol of historic Vancouver Island coal mining industry.
Special Feature	☒	Only remaining coal tipple found on Vancouver Island.

Other Management Considerations

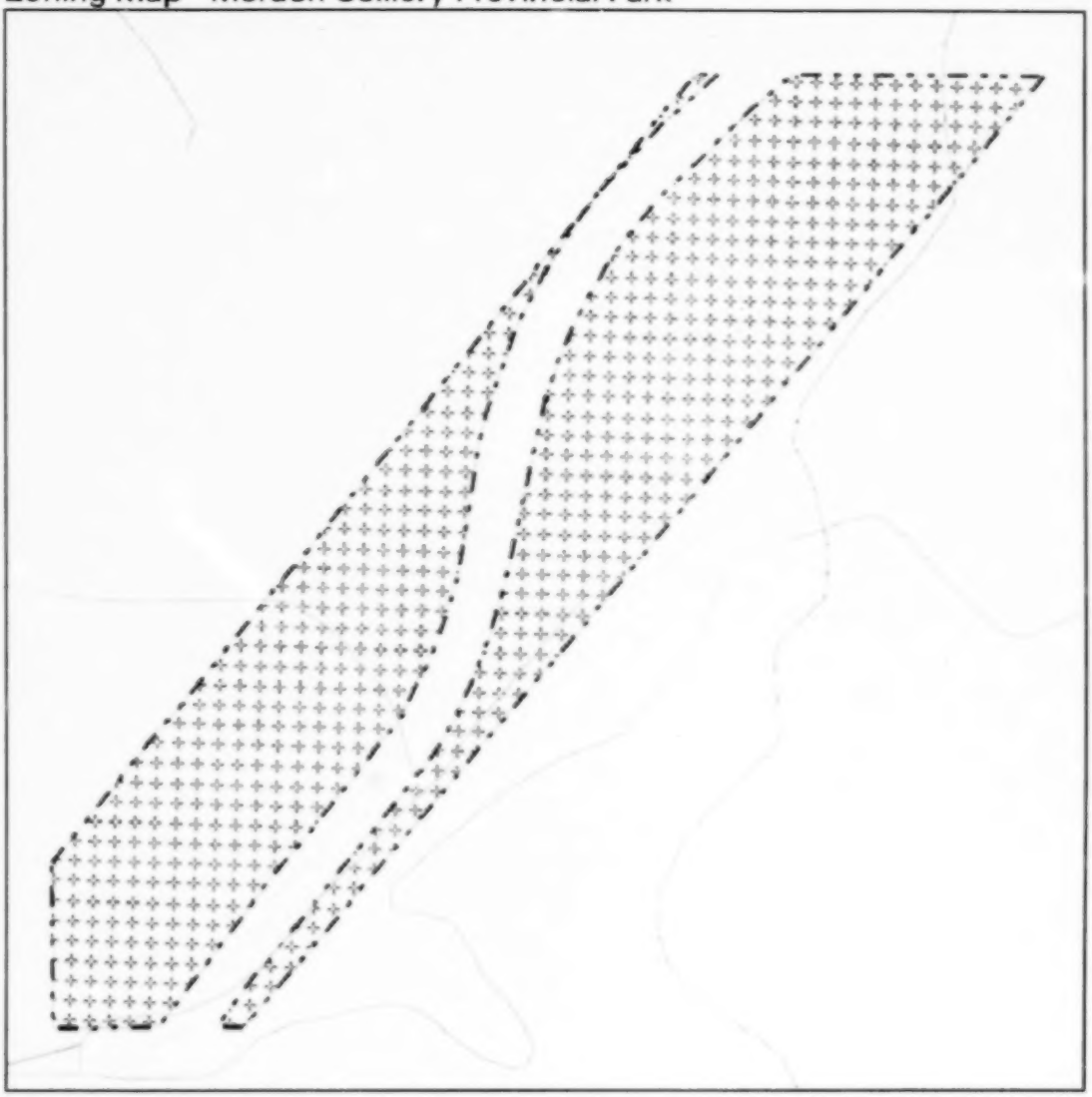
Other Designations	☐	

Relationship to other PAs	☐	
Co-operative Management Arrangements	☒	Mining industry has expressed interest in site restoration and interpretation; tourist attraction.
Partnerships	☒	Potential transfer to Nanaimo Regional District.
Vulnerability	☒	Vandalism and deterioration of coal tipple, and other artifacts through natural processes.
Relationship to other Strategies	☐	

Area: 4 hectares

Date of establishment: January 10, 1972

Zoning Map - Morden Colliery Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Special Feature
Protected Area Boundary

0 100
m

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This is a visual representation only and should not be used for legal purposes.